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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 509
By Cole (Dyer)

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach James Counce
and the 1997 Dyersburg High School football
team on their many accomplishments.

WHEREAS, Tennessee has a long and proud history of exemplary high school athletic
teams, and it is therefore fitting that this General Assembly should specially recognize and
honor those exceptional teams who have added to our glorious sports tradition; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding 1997 Dyersburg High School football team recently finished
a great season by finishing as a Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association 4-A state
tournament semi-finalist; and

WHEREAS, Dyersburg compiled a rare unblemished 10-0 regular season record,
overwhelming White Station 35-6, Ripley 42-6, Chester County 60-20, Jackson Northside 21-17,
Gibson County 42-14, Haywood County 25-3, Somerville Fayette-Ware 28-14, Lexington 45-13,
and Jackson South Side 31-14, and won the coveted Region 7 4-A title with an impressive 20-0
victory against Hardin County; and

WHEREAS, the resounding victory over Hardin County was especially noteworthy,
because the Tigers were undefeated and ranked second in the state at the time; and

WHEREAS, the Trojans finished the regular season ranked second in the state; and

WHEREAS, in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association state playoffs, they
beat East High, Trezevant High, and Hardin County to reach the semi-final round; and

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WHEREAS, the team finished the season with an enviable 13-1 record; and

WHEREAS, their thirteen victories were the most ever by a Dyersburg football team; and

WHEREAS, this stellar team consistently beat teams with bigger players; and

WHEREAS, the powerful offense averaged more than 350 yards per game. Frank Levy gained 1,152 yards, with 18 touchdowns; Kelvin Genesy gained 1,041 yards, with 9 touchdowns; Vincent Thomas, their expert quarterback, rushed for 544 yards, with 10 touchdowns and had 1,257 yards passing, with 15 passing touchdowns. Other team offense leaders included: Ronnie Duke, 577 yards, 10 touchdowns and Scotty Anderson, 418 yards, 4 touchdowns; and

WHEREAS, the stingy defense allowed less than 200 yards per game, caused 14 fumbles, and had 30 quarterback sacks, 6 interceptions and 4 blocked kickoffs; and

WHEREAS, the Trojans were under the able leadership of Coach James Counce, who was aided in his efforts by a very capable staff including, Assistant Coaches Joe Welch, Grady Andrews, Hugh Owens, Cedric Hampton, Kevin Kennedy and Jeff Branham; and

WHEREAS, five Dyersburg players were chosen for the prestigious title of Honorable Mention All-State: Vincent Thomas, Ben Lee, Frank Levy, Ronnie Dukes, and Kelvin Genesy; and

WHEREAS, the complete roster of this fine team included: seniors Scotty Anderson, Vincent Thomas, Kelvin Genesy, Ronnie Dukes, Frank Levy, Alex Bane, Frank Markham, Matt Pewitt, Erik Wolak, Edgar Davison and Drew McCollum; juniors Chris Carter, Bryan Gilliland, Mike McDorman, Ben Lee, Jermaine Robertson, Greg Hunter, Anthony Nelson, Jeremy Baker, J.J. Russell, Montoreus Nolan and Glenn Parkinson; and sophomores Mark Edwards, Victor Driver, Hunter Hart, Hernando Taylor, Will Andrews, David Campbell, Thomas Harris, Sammie Arnold, Joshua Adcock, Tremayne Nunn, Brandon Eakin, Walker Wellington, Eric Lyte, Robert

Pace, Noah Pankey and Jeremy Tillman. The excellent managers were Michael Davis and Marcus Dukes; and

WHEREAS, Principal Sam Miles and Athletic Director Terry Glover were very supportive of the team; and

WHEREAS, the enthusiastic cheerleaders, under the masterful guidance of sponsors Kim Worley and Mindi Hearn, included: captains Sarah Beth Daniels and Leah Walker, co-captains Sarah Jane Lewis and Stacye Sims; A.J. Carlton, Santresa Cole, Marikay Cook, Emily Greene, Katie Hardage, Roxie Haymon, Candice Hepler, Jansen Joslin, Georgia Lee Ketchum, Sarah Ladd, Diana Paschal, Lynlee Stafford, Brandy Welch, Jane Carolyn Whitnel and Jessica Wilson; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to specially recognize the numerous accomplishments of this great team; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE-HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach James Counce and the 1997 Dyersburg High School football team and wish them well in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.